

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-13 are pending in this application. Claim 2 is canceled by the present response without prejudice.

The present response is submitted to place the present application in condition for allowance based on the indication of allowable subject matter in the outstanding Office Action. More specifically, in the outstanding Office Action claims 2, 4, 6, 8-10, and 12 were objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 13 is allowed. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter.

By the present response each of the claims is amended to recite subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action. More specifically, Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations from dependent claim 2, and thus claim 1 now corresponds to previously pending dependent claim 2 rewritten in independent form. That subject matter was noted as allowable in the outstanding Office Action. Claims 3-8 now also now depend from allowable independent Claim 1.

Claim 9 is also amended to be rewritten in independent form, and that subject matter was also noted as allowable in the outstanding Office Action. Further, independent Claim 13 is already allowed.

Thus, each of independent Claims 1, 9, and 13 recite subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action, and the other pending claims depend from one of those independent claims. Thereby, each of claims is believed to recite allowable subject matter.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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